

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 02521 200840Z

13 16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 H-02 PRS-01 SS-15

SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 USIE-00 PA-01 INRE-00 /056 W

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O 161415Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5757

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: USG-GOI CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS

1. ACCORDING TO ROME PRESS REPORTS, CONFIRMED BY MFA SOURCES, GENERAL SANTINI DID NOT RPT NOT DEPART WITH THE REST OF THE ITALIAN DELEGATION ON FEBRUARY 15 FOR THE USG-GOI CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 17 IN WASHINGTON. SANTINI REPORTEDLY OBJECTED TO THE INCLUSION IN THE ITALIAN DELEGATION OF A SEPARATE REPRESENTATIVE (LASSANDRO OF CIVILAVIA), INSTRUCTED BY THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, TO DISCUSS CHARTER PROBLEMS. THE NEW HEAD OF DELEGATION IS MINISTER MARCELLO GENTILE FROM THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF CIVAIR AFFAIRS AT THE MFA WHEN THE PRESENT US-ITALY AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WAS NEGOTIATED.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH EMBASSY SOURCES RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER AT THIS TIME, THE ISSUE APPARENTLY INVOLVES BOTH PRINCIPLE AND PERSONALITIES. AS HEAD OF DELEGATION, SANTINI WOULD INSIST ON FULL AUTHORITY OVER ALL ASPECTS OF THE CONSULTATIONS. LASSANDRO'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE REPORTEDLY DIRECTLY FROM TRANSPORT MINISTRY CHIEF OF CABINET COLLINI AND HAD NOT BEEN CLEARED WITH THE MFA AND SANTINI. THERE IS ALSO NO LOVE LOST BETWEEN FORMER DGCA SANTINI AND COLLINI, WHO IS STRONG CONTENDER TO REPLACE PRESENT DGCA MOCI WHEN LATTER RETIRES. COLLINI HAS OFTEN BEEN CRITICAL OF PAST AND PRESENT CIVILAVIA POLICIES/

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PAGE 02 ROME 02521 200840Z

PROCEDURES. MOREOVER, SANTINI BELIEVES DGCA SHOULD BE EX-

AIR FORCE GENERAL IN ORDER PROMOTE FULLEST COOPERATION BETWEEN
ITALIAN AIR FORCE, WHICH OPERATES ITALIAN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL
SYSTEM, AND CIVILAVIA.VOLPE

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